

Please amend the following claims as indicated (all pending claims are reproduced for the Examiner's convenience):

a¹ --1. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide from *Corynebacterium* which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

2. The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 1, wherein said protein has LysR1 transcriptional regulatory activity.

a² 3. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide, which comprises nucleotides 201 to 1109 of SEQ ID NO:1 and degenerates thereof.

4. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide, which comprises the full complement of polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 1 nucleotides 201 to 1109.

a³ 8. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide from *Corynebacterium glutamicum* which hybridizes under stringent conditions to the polynucleotide of Claim 3; wherein said stringent conditions comprise washing in 5X SSC at a temperature from 50 to 68°C.

9. The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 3, which encodes a protein having LysR1 transcriptional regulatory activity.

a⁴ 11. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide consisting of 15 to 383 consecutive nucleotides selected from SEQ ID NO: 1.

12. A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 1.

13. A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 3.

20. A *Coryneform* bacterium which comprises an attenuated lysR1 gene.

a⁵ 21. (Amended) The *Coryneform* bacterium of Claim 20, wherein said lysR1 gene comprises the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

22. *Escherichia Coli* DSM 13616.

23. A process for producing L-amino acids comprising culturing a bacterial cell in a medium suitable for producing L-amino acids, wherein said bacterial cell comprises an attenuated *lysR1* gene.

24. The process of Claim 23, wherein said bacterial cell is a *Coryneform bacterium* or *Brevibacterim*.

25. The process of Claim 24, wherein said bacterial cell is selected from the group consisting of *Coryneform glutamicum*, *Corynebacterium acetoglutamicum*, *Corynebacterium acetoacidophilum*, *Corynebacterium melassecola*, *Corynebacterium thermoaminogenes*, *Brevibacterium flavum*, *Brevibacterium lactofermentum*, *Brevibacterium divaricatum*.

26. The process of Claim 23, wherien said *lysR1* gene comprises the polynucleoitde sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

27. The process of Claim 23, wherein said L-amino acid is L-lysine.

28. The process of Claim 23, wherein said L-amino acid is L-valine.

29. The process of Claim 23, wherein said bacteria further comprises at least one gene whose expression is enhanced, wherein said gene is selected from the group consisting of *dapA*, *eno*, *zwf*, *pyc*, and *lysE*.

30. The process of Claim 23, wherein said bacteria further comprises at least one gene whose expression is attenuated, wherein said gene is selected from the group consisting of *pck*, *pgi*, and *poxB*.

31. A process for screening for polynucleotides which encode a protein having *LysR1* transcriptional regulatory activity comprising hybridizing the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 1 to the polynucleotide to be screened; expressing the polynucleotide to produce a protein; and detecting the presence or absence of *LysR1* transcriptional regulatory activity in said protein.

32. A process for screening for polynucleotides which encode a protein having LysR1 transcriptional regulatory activity comprising hybridizing the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 3 to the polynucleotide to be screened; expressing the polynucleotide to produce a protein; and detecting the presence or absence of LysR1 transcriptional regulatory activity in said protein.

33. A method for detecting a nucleic acid with at least 70% homology to nucleotide of Claim 1, comprising contacting a nucleic acid sample with a probe or primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence of Claim 1, or at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of the complement thereof.

34. A method for producing a nucleic acid with at least 70% homology to nucleotide of Claim 1, comprising contacting a nucleic acid sample with a primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence of Claim 1, or at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of the complement thereof.

35. A method for detecting a nucleic acid with at least 70% homology to nucleotide of Claim 3, comprising contacting a nucleic acid sample with a probe or primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence of Claim 3, or at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of the complement thereof.

36. A method for producing a nucleic acid with at least 70% homology to nucleotide of Claim 3, comprising contacting a nucleic acid sample with a primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence of Claim 3, or at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of the complement thereof.

39. An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.--

Please add the following claims.

- 40. (New) A DNA from *Corynebacterium* consisting essentially of nucleotides encoding a protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.
41. (New) A vector comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 11.
42. (New) The vector of Claim 41, wherein said polynucleotide is SEQ ID NO: 3.
43. (New) The vector of Claim 42, wherein said vector is pCR2.1lysR1int shown in Figure 1 and deposited as DSM 13616 at the German Collection for Microorganisms and Cell Cultures (DSMZ, Brunswick, Germany).
44. (New) *Escherichia coli* TOP10F/pCR2.1lysR1int deposited as DSM 13616 at the German Collection for Microorganisms and Cell Cultures (DSMZ, Brunswick, Germany).
45. (New) An isolated polynucleotide, which comprises the full complement of the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 3.
46. (New) An isolated polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of nucleotides 201 to 1109 of SEQ ID NO: 1, the full complement of nucleotides 201 to 1109, SEQ ID NO: 1, the full complement of SEQ ID NO: 1 and SEQ ID NO: 3.
47. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 2.
48. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 4.
49. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 7.
50. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 8.
51. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 9.
52. (New) A vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 11.--

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